

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, radical Republicans in Congress are preparing again to take political hostages in order to force President Clinton to accept their extreme agenda.

If insanity consists of doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result, legislative lunacy is shutting down the Federal Government for a third time and expecting public support. Having learned nothing from the two Government shutdowns they manufactured last year, key Republican leaders are threatening to force yet another fiscal crisis unless they get a substantial share of their agenda. They're threatening to load up funding bills with extremist riders and let the United States go into default unless the President agrees to give massive tax breaks for the rich paid for by deep cuts in Medicare, education, and the environment.

Last fall, the Republicans launched their first fiscal strike, shutting down the Government for 5 days. In December, the GOP launched their second strike, shutting down the Government for 3 weeks. If there is another Government shutdown or a default, the American people have every right to go to the polls in November and tell the GOP: "Three Strikes and You're Out."

#### WELFARE STATE ENCOURAGING FAMILY BREAKDOWN

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, as a candidate for President 4 years ago, Bill Clinton said that he would "end welfare as we know it."

Earlier this month, President Clinton vetoed a welfare bill that would have done exactly what candidate Clinton had promised.

Let us review some of the facts.

Almost \$5 trillion has been spent on the welfare state since LBJ launched the war on poverty.

Over half of the individuals receiving AFDC remain dependent on welfare for 10 or more years.

In 1973, the illegitimacy rate for AFDC mothers was 32 percent. Today, it is over 50 percent.

Mr. Speaker, the welfare state has become a system that encourages family breakdown and government dependence. It fails to hold absentee fathers accountable and traps young people in poverty. When given a chance to change this destructive system, Bill Clinton again proved that he is a say anything, do nothing liberal President.

#### TAXPAYER MONEY BEING WASTED

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, if word were out this afternoon that a govern-

mental official had wasted \$150,000 of taxpayer money to further a political agenda, someone would surely be here denouncing it, and if the figure were instead \$1.5 million, I am sure the line of speakers would be rather long. Were it \$150 million of wasted taxpayer money, there would be bills and resolutions filed and other extraordinary action.

But what we are dealing with this afternoon is not \$150,000 or \$150 million, but \$1.5 billion of the greatest waste of taxpayer money in the history of these United States. That is the cost of the two Gingrich government shutdowns, \$1.5 billion totally wasted, frivolously, to further a political agenda, and, in the word of the sponsor of this action, to pressure another political official into doing what they want; \$1.5 billion.

In all these budget negotiations, I have never seen a line item that should be there; \$1.5 billion Gingrich government wasteful spending for shutting down the Government. Are they going to take that out of Medicare or just add it to the Government deficit?

#### A LITTLE FRIENDLY ADVICE FOR PRESIDENT CLINTON

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton has not asked me for any advice, but if he were to ask in the spirit of bipartisanship, I would be happy to oblige. I would say, "Mr. President, you are about to give your State of the Union Address. You have got your hands full right now with a host of problems. You vetoed the Balanced Budget Act while keeping Hazel O'Leary, who uses taxpayer dollars to hire Madonna's plane, still on the job. You still have got people upset with you because you raised taxes, the biggest tax increase in American history. You have promised to end welfare as we know it, and then you vetoed welfare reform. And you have gone back on your word to cut taxes on the American people."

I would say, "Mr. President, you can still make things right with the American people. You can still keep those promises you have made and broken so many times. You can agree to balance the budget by restraining spending and cutting taxes on hard-working American families. If you do that, Mr. President, you would finally be keeping your word and you would make an awful lot of Americans happy."

For what it is worth, that is the advice I would give President Clinton.

#### FUND NASA NOW

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, what a difference a day makes.

Yesterday, NASA's Galileo spacecraft beamed back incredible images of Jupiter, our solar system's most intriguing planet. Today, however, Members are ready to allow NASA to be caught in the crossfire of another Government shutdown.

When I met last week with NASA contractors in my district, they told me that the failure to enact NASA's appropriation would cause devastation and hardship to the region's aerospace industry. Small contractors, who don't have the financial flexibility of their large counterparts, would be particularly hard-hit.

Thermal Electronics, Luna Defense Systems, RGA Labs, and Phoenix Engineering will all be forced to lay off—not furlough, but lay off—a substantial percentage of their workers unless we act in a bipartisan manner to immediately enact a NASA appropriation which funds the space station and key science initiatives like the mission to plant Earth.

If one adds in Hughes, TRW, Allied Signal, and Cal Tech's Jet Propulsion Lab, we are talking about the possibility of over 10,000 layoffs.

Mr. Speaker, we must find common ground and fund NASA now. Our future depends on it.

#### SHAMEFUL DEMAGOGUERY

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I was on a plane last week and a fellow citizen of Lakewood turned to me and he said:

You know, Martin, it seems to be the difference between the new Democrat and the old Democrat is that the new Democrats are talking a great game, a great wonderful conservative game, and then they turn around and do the same thing that all the old liberal Democrats did.

This was a fellow who grew up in Texas as a Democrat.

I think that is exactly right on the money, and exactly what we can expect tonight from the President's State of the Union Address. We are going to hear another fabulous address. But when it gets down to the nitty-gritty, when we actually present a balanced budget, when we can actually do the right thing, then we in fact get into the gutter and engage in the most mindless and really shameful demagoguery that we have heard around here in a long time.

Let me just give you one example, and that is the Medicare example. Our Medicare program would increase spending at 7.4 percent per pay for the next 7 years; the President's is around 7.6, 7.7 percent. Yet this is deep cuts in Medicare to pay for a tax cut for our rich friends? And with a straight face? It is just shameful.